

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS & PRACTICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, MARCH 10 & 11, 2004

*Higher Education Complex
2500 Broadway
Helena, MT 59601
Room 1026*

CALL TO ORDER

The Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council was called to order by CSPAC Chair, Gloria Curdy, on Wednesday, March 10, 2004, at 8:30 A.M. CSPAC council members present were: Gloria Curdy, Chair; Scott McCulloch, Vice Chair; Melodee Smith-Burreson; George White; Charla Bunker; Douglas Reisig and Dan Villa. Staff members present were: Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary of the Board of Public Education; Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer for CSPAC and Jennifer Marsicano, CSPAC Council Secretary. The following people signed the meeting roster: Cathy Warhank OPI, Bud Williams, OPI, Erik Burke, MEA-MFT, Darrell Rud, SAM, Linda Peterson, OPI, Ian Godwin, MSU Bozeman and Patty Myers, BPE.

Ms. Curdy, chair, called the meeting to order and asked for suggestions regarding agenda changes. Council members elected to move the update on the white paper from the Professional Ethics Committee to the Executive Committee Report. This was accepted by the council.

Motion: George White made a motion to approve the October 2-3, 2003 CSPAC meeting minutes. Douglas Reisig seconded this motion. It was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

ITEM 1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Curdy asked if there were any changes or additions to the Committee Responsibilities sheet. Mr. Villa stated that under the Research Projects Oversight Committee there should be an Assessment Study Group update, which the council recommended to be on every agenda packet for upcoming meetings.

Ms. Smith-Burreson reported that Mr. Donovan, Mr. Reisig, Ms. Bunker, Mr. Villa and Gloria Curdy attended the 2003 Montana Teacher Forum. It was a one-day seminar. The next forum will be held on October 1, 2004. There were five forum recommendations from the attendees: 1. More time for teacher-led, quality professional development. 2. More teacher involvement in professional development decisions. 3. Restructure the school calendar to provide more time for professional growth and student learning. 4. Fund and establish formal mentoring programs. 5.

Provide adequate funds to schools so that class sizes, facilities, equipment, textbooks, materials, and salaries support quality learning.

Ms. Curdy asked if there was any action suggested by the forum to implement these recommendations. Ms. Smith-Burreson responded that a liaison was to be created to the legislative body to get some of these ideas implemented.

Mr. McCulloch made a request that tiered certification be added to a future CSPAC agenda to be researched in the upcoming year.

Ms. Curdy stated that tiered certification and the committee responsibilities would be discussed under future agenda items.

ITEM 7 PROFESSIONAL ETHICS COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Meloy presented the update on the white paper for CSPAC's role regarding suspension and revocation policies. This paper is an opinion of Cathy Warhank, Legal Counsel, OPI and the Office of Public Instruction to bring back to the BPE & CSPAC for their suggestions, amendments, and discussion. Ms. Warhank said that CSPAC has no direct role in the process for revocation, suspension, non-renewal or denial of an educator license. Ms. Warhank went on to indicate that, according to law, the council may furnish advice, information, gather information and make recommendations. CSPAC is authorized to view the individual case files that have been submitted to the board; consideration of suspension or revocation is part of an appeal from the Superintendent's denial of issuance or renewal. Ms. Warhank's main concern is that confidentiality is maintained through the whole process.

ITEM 2 CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Curdy requested that when a CSPAC council member attends a meeting she would like to have a brief written report that can be shared with the other members at the next council meeting. Ms. Curdy stated that Mr. Donovan and Ms. Smith-Burreson went to Baltimore for the 2003 Board of Teaching Clinic. Dr. Art Wise, President of NCATE, was a speaker at the conference. Dr. Wise indicates that the majority of the states use NCATE and that the attendance at NCATE accredited programs greatly increases chances of teachers passing state exams.

Ms. Curdy referred to a document from the conference, which she distributed, entitled: Tracking Teacher Prep grads in South Carolina. Teacher programs in South Carolina graduate 3,300 students seeking licenses. Of the 3,300, only 2,800 graduates will actually take positions. Only 2,100 new teachers will remain after one year. 1,700 new teachers will remain after two years. The turnover rate costs school districts a large amount of money. 82% are teaching in South Carolina in special ED with only 31% trained. Out of 41% of teachers that teach English as a second language only 31% of those are trained.

Mr. Sam Swofford, NASDTEC President, spoke about an overview of independent standards boards. CA, GA, IN, IA, KY, MI, ND, OR, WY, HA, OK have independent standards boards. An independent standards board is established by statute, has the authority to set standards for licensure of K-12 teachers, has authority to hire staff, and administer the budget. Ms. Curdy

stated there were four things that our Montana team committed to doing 1. Promote mentorship 2. Use the current pilot-test to evaluate testing for Educator Licensure 3. Reach out to home schoolers and continue to build education coalitions. 3. Closely examine and evaluate NCATE and TEAC.

Ms. Smith-Burreson stated that she enjoyed the meeting and appreciated having the opportunity to attend.

Mr. Donovan thanked MEA-MFT for sending four people from Montana to the conference. Mr. Burke on the behalf of MEA-MFT thanked the four people that attended the meeting.

ITEM 3 BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT

Mr. Meloy, Board of Public Education, stated that the Board of Public Education staff has been involved with the School Renewal Commission. The closing arguments for the MQEC lawsuit will be April 1, 2004. The Governor recently committed \$25,000 to the School Renewal Commission.

Mr. Meloy reported that the Leadership Group, consisting of Superintendent McCulloch, Mr. Meloy, the Governor's Office and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, is involved with creating some infrastructure for the Board of Education. Mr. Meloy reported four committees were recommended to the Board of Education. These committee are P-20 Committee, Policy and Evaluation Committee, Budget Committee and Indian Ed for all Committee.

Mr. Meloy went on to discuss the CSPAC budget stating that it is in the red by \$18,000 and will continue to be so until we figure out how to improve the situation. Mr. Meloy stated that CSPAC could get by for a couple of years by taking the money out of the research fund. At the end of the biennium the research fund should have about \$60,000. Mr. Meloy reviewed Mr. Donovan's position description and submitted it to the Department of Administration for a reclassification. Mr. Meloy reported that the reclassification was one of the factors that contributed to the budget deficit.

Mr. Meloy informed the council members that the next School Renewal Commission meeting would be held on March 15, 2004. Mr. Meloy reported the commission has formed three groups 1. The Regionalization Group, 2. Barriers to Consolidation Group, 3. Maps, a group creating colored maps, which show the different taxation models and how each county and school district would be impacted.

Mr. Villa asked Mr. Meloy if he saw the commission moving toward functioning with current dollars and finding ways to save dollars or moving towards additional revenue. Mr. Meloy replied that he felt all options were on the table at this point.

ITEM 4 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Donovan presented his list of meetings he attended from October 2003 to February 2004. The Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards (PEPPS) meeting was one that had occurred since the list had been compiled.

Ms. Curdy asked Mr. White to attend the PEPPS review committee meetings on behalf of CSPAC. Mr. White requested that the meeting schedule be sent to him as soon as possible.

Mr. Donovan also discussed a meeting on the implementation of the teacher internship process. The internship process is designed to move someone from one area of licensure to another without affecting the schools. Mr. Donovan said the new process has caused some issues with the University System because there are some requirements for teacher education programs to provide faculty to supervise and to visit interns once during their internship.

Ms. Curdy asked who was involved with this committee. Dr. Linda Peterson stated that the committee included superintendents, interns, faculty from the colleges of arts and sciences, Erik Burke, MCE-MFT, and Margaret Bowles, OPI. Ms. Curdy stated that she would like to have Dr. Reisig serve on the committee. Mr. Reisig stated he would be willing to do this.

Mr. Donovan spoke with regard to the planning for the 2004 Montana Educator Forum. Mr. Donovan stated that the committee spent a good deal of time taking a serious look at the recommendations from 2003. One of the biggest challenges was to find ways to broaden the loop, to make the conference more valuable for the trustees, administrators, and to inform political and rule making processes. Forum participants expressed interest in developing ideas that people can take home. They changed the title from the Teacher Forum to the Educator Forum.

Mr. Burke stated that the biggest change was the date of the meeting. The meeting used to occur on the second Monday in the school year. It was changed to the first Friday in October. This could possibly change in the future.

Mr. McCulloch asked if Mr. Burke had any idea of the head count they would need to feel like the conference was a success. Mr. Burke stated that at least 50 people would be a good number.

Ms. Curdy requested a standing report on this subject be included at each CSPAC meeting.

ITEM 5 MONTANA COMMISSION ON TEACHING COMMITTEE

Ms. Smith-Burreson stated that she was unable to attend the meeting on the MCT activities. Ms. Myers, BPE, chaired the meeting in her place. Mr. Donovan stated that the recommendation of the committee was to come up with an idea that would look at some sort of performance-based assessment for future teacher education candidates. This recommendation was brought to the Council of Deans meeting in February. Mr. Donovan stated that this subject was not a high priority of the Council of Deans. (However, the council of deans felt it would be worthwhile for the institutions to talk about what each program was doing as far as having some sort of performance-based assessment.) Most of the concerns came from the folks at MSU Bozeman.

Mr. Donovan stated that the MCT received a \$5,000 grant from the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future. This grant money was divided up between seven school districts. This grant helped to assist with school district participation in a mentor institute that was sponsored by MEA-MFT and OPI. One of the requirements for the grant money was that the districts submit a letter as a follow-up on how the money was used. Mr. Donovan stated that all the districts were appreciative of this grant.

ITEM 6 LICENSURE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Donovan stated that he requested Ms. Bowles write a summary of what was happening with the online renewal of licenses.

A question arose at the Board of Public Education meeting about how renewal units have been completed. Ms. Bowles stated that the teachers are responsible for keeping track of their courses and renewal year, if the teacher would happen to get audited; it is the responsibility of the applicant to submit the information to OPI.

ITEM 8 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Ian Godwin, MSU-Bozeman, presented information regarding the Transition to Teaching Program. He distributed a disk that had a description of the program and Power Point slide show. The Northern Plains Transition to Teaching Program at Montana State University is federally funded through the US Department of Education. The program provides teacher licensure preparation to post secondary education graduates.

Mr. Godwin stated that currently there are 49 people taking courses to prepare to accept positions for the next school year. There are 23 teachers placed in schools, 75 percent are in Montana. As of March, the NPTT has not done any advertising, but has plans to advertise in the future.

Mr. Darrell Rud, Executive Director, School Administrators of Montana, presented on the new mentoring program for school administrators of Montana. Several goals were implemented within the three years since he took office. They include recruitment and retention; developing a formal mentor program with mentor training and mentoring assignments; find ways to take advantage of retired administrators in the mentoring program and implement a more formal network mechanism to support administrators in their jobs.

Mr. Rud reported that a mentor trainer came to Montana and trained the volunteers. There were seven Montana mentors that were all volunteers. Mr. Rud hired a retired administrator, Ms. Joe Swain to oversee the project. Ms. Swain has been involved in a national mentor process and she is currently working to becoming a national certified mentor trainer. Ms. Tina Lynch is enrolling in a mentoring training program that will likely lead to national certification.

ITEM 9 PRE-PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Dr. Peterson gave an update on the Teacher Testing Pilot Study. Dr. Peterson stated the pilot study taskforce came together in May 2003. One of the major issues was testing new candidates who are coming out of our institutions of higher education in a strictly pilot testing approach.

Dr. Peterson reported there were representatives from the Council of Deans, as well as, Indian education representation and CSPAC representatives.

Dr. Peterson reported the committee was looking at HEA, Title 2 reporting requirements that require the state to have some kind of plan that indicates how schools of education are making a judgment in terms of teacher candidates for their ability to teach.

Some of the task force decisions were to test only in the major content areas. There are testing major and minors. There are three sessions on testing day, April 17, 2004.

Dr. Peterson gave an update on NCATE. She stated that OPI would like some action taken if possible to move the 5-year review cycle to a 7-year review cycle.

Motion: Dr. Doug Reisig made a motion to recommend the BPE place the units of the Montana University System on a seven year NCATE /state review cycle. Scott McCulloch seconded. It was unanimously approved.

Dr. Reisig stated that this topic was open for discussion. Mr. Villa stated that the Council of Deans would make recommendation to CSPAC in July as to specific changes. Mr. White stated that this is to address the relationship with the state, the contract, and a rotation for the institutions

Dr. Reisig requested that the INTASC standards be sent to all CSPAC members.

ITEM 10 RESEARCH PROJECTS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Donovan gave an update on the CSPAC Assessment Study Group. The Board of Public Education had requested a recommendation related to the NRT, as to whether or not to continue, and if so, under what condition. The Assessment Study Group reached agreement on three consensus statements.

1. To continue the Iowa test through FY'05 and research the following: the continuation of the ITED in relation to other standardized tests taken by students and how to insure meaningful inclusion of all students.
2. To request funding for state-level assessments thru FY'07 which includes an allocation to research an option to assess student achievement.
3. To continue NRT thru 2007, which will serve as the transition period to the future of state-level assessments.

For clarification reasons Mr. Villa stated that the CSPAC council members voted to support consensus statement number two. The CSPAC council voted to support number one and number three, but these failed.

Motion: Dr. Reisig made a motion that CSPAC support consensus statement #1 from the CSPAC Assessment Study Group only until the current contract with Riverside Publishing expires through 2005. This motion failed

Motion: Dr. Reisig made a motion that CSPAC support consensus statement #3 as offered by the CSPAC Assessment Study Group only until the current contract with Riverside Publishing expires. This motion failed.

Motion: Melodee Smith Burreson made a motion to amend this following statement: Based on the survey on the future of the norm reference test, CSPAC recommends to BPE and to OPI to make optional the following: The continuation of the ITED in relation to other standard test taken by students and how to insure meaningful inclusion of students. Mr.Reisig seconded this amendment for discussion purpose. This motion failed.

After further discussion, CSPAC agreed to present the following statement principle:

Based on the results of the survey on the future of the Norm Referenced Test, CSPAC issue a statement of principle. CSPAC urged the Office of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education to continue to investigate methods of providing meaningful inclusion of students in statewide assessments, including but not limited to the optional utilizations by Montana school districts of the ITBS test as provided by Riverside Publishing. All council members agreed with this statement.

Mr. Donovan gave an update on the Christa McAuliffe grant. He stated that he was unable to give specific information at this time. Mr. Villa stated that this item would be placed on future CSPAC agenda items.

Dr. Peterson was unable to present on the AACTE study to compare NCATE & TEAC. Ms. Curdy stated there are several differences between NCATE and TEAC. NCATE is a coalition of more than 30 national associations representing the education profession. TEAC is governed by a self-perpetuated board. TEAC does assessment according to the institution's goals. TEAC only examines the part of the program that is brought forward. NCATE examines the entire preparation program. NCATE is determined by national subject matter, TEAC is not. Ms. Curdy continued to state that the number of total institutions accredited, by NCATE =552, and by TEAC =5.

Ms. Curdy stated that there is a big difference between the members voting for NCATE and the members voting for TEAC. The members voting for NCATE are all educational associations, whereas the TEAC association's members are non-voting.

ITEM 11 PLAN FOR FUTURE CONFERENCES

Ms. Curdy discussed the 2004 conference for NASDTEC in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania that she attended June 10, 2004. Mr. Donovan stated that NASDTEC has published a draft agenda for this conference.

Motion: Mr. McCulloch made a motion to send up to 3 members, which will include Mr. Donovan to the NASDTEC conference. Dan Villa seconded this and the motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Curdy asked if a council member wished to attend the meeting in Pittsburg to let Mr. Donovan know.

ITEM 12 PLANNING FOR JOINT BPE/CSPAC MEETING

Mr. McCulloch requested to have Gloria Curdy, Chair present the CSPAC annual report to the BPE.

ITEM 13 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Update on the Christa McAuliffe Grant
Tiered Certification
Executive Committee review the role of CSPAC
Educator Forum Update.

ITEM 14 PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURN: Ms. Curdy adjourned the meeting at 5:50....